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**A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
DE-NOISING MULTIPLE COPIES OF A SIGNAL**

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ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A "composite signal generator" automatically combines two or more
copies of a signal to produce a composite that is better than the individual copies.
For example, given two or more input images of a scene captured from
15 approximately the same viewpoint, the composite signal generator automatically
produces a composite image having reduced or eliminated areas of occlusion
with respect to any occlusions existing in the input images. First, the input
images are registered using conventional image registration techniques.
Differences between the registered images are then used to identify regions of
20 potential occlusion in one or more of the images. A determination of which
image is actually occluded is made by identifying which image has a larger
discontinuity along a border of the potentially occluded regions. A composite
image is then created by choosing one image and mosaicing parts from the other
images where it is occluded and they are not.